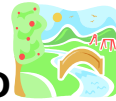




REDMOND PARK BOARD



Meeting Minutes July 7, 2005 Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center

I. Call to order/Welcome to Citizen Guests

The regular meeting of the Redmond Park Board was called to order by Chairperson Lori Snodgrass at 7:02 p.m.

Board members present: Chair: Snodgrass, Co-chair: Kelsey, Board members: Margeson, Stewart, and Ladd.

City staff present: Tim Cox, Parks Planning Manager; and Sharon Sato, Recording Secretary.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion for approval of the June 2, 2005 Redmond Park Board minutes with the following corrections:

Page 4 - "Plackett strongly felt the amount of \$8.5 million...,should be amended to read, "Plackett strongly felt the \$8.5 million figure was too low and the amount should be raised."

Page 11 - "Snodgrass would like notification before any trees.....",should read, Snodgrass suggested the trees in the area should be flagged/tagged and requested that a visual tree impact report be given to the Board as soon as available.

Motion by: Margeson to adopt minutes as amended

Second by: Stewart

Motion carried: 5-0 unanimous

III. Items from the Audience

John Campbell, Redmond resident, spoke to the Board of his concern regarding the adoption of the rule that pets are not allowed within 150 ft. from the water at Idylwood Beach Park. Mr. Campbell's suggestion for an alternative of, jointly enforcing the "no dogs off leash" and "scoop" rules would possibly be effective. He added that he has a dog and felt the rule was too restrictive, as long as dogs were with their owners and on leashes. He felt that some enjoyed walking their dogs along the beachfront; however, he did say he would not be opposed to a "no dogs on the beach" regulation.

He asked the Board's advice. Mr. Campbell also noted that the collection of signs in the Park, along pathways, docks and on the beach were overwhelming (creek reclamation signs, no dogs allowed signs, etc.), but noted that some have been removed recently.

Stewart inquired if health and safety issues precluded dogs on the beach, but dogs were allowed on paths, despite the 150 ft. rule, would that be agreeable. Campbell responded that he would be in agreement.

Kelsey suggested that staff study the issue, research why the 150 ft. restriction was adopted and report back to the Board with findings. Snodgrass asked staff to take Kelsey's suggestion and report back to the Board at a future meeting.

Cox noted that he would contact other responsible departments to remove excessive, duplicate signs from the park site.

IV. Additions to the Agenda/Handouts

- A. Smith Land Acquisition - copies of letters sent to Mayor's office, from neighbors, requesting that staff look into the purchase of the additional five acres, next to the five acres the city already owns on the Smith property site to create a larger park. Kip Hussey has been circulating the petitions for signatures from Redmond residents and will be making a presentation before Council in the near future.
- B. Overlake Neighborhood Plan Implementation - Information handout.
- C. Parks and Recreation Month - Proclamation was signed by Mayor and presented at the July 5th Council meeting.
- D. Watershed Park Pipeline
Cox reported that Hopkins and Byszeski have met with the city's land acquisition manager, who has been working with the City Engineer and the pipeline company. The pipeline has the right to maintain the existing pipeline; the construction zone is immediately adjacent to the pipeline company's right-of-way and they do have the right to do construction in their own right-of-way, but have asked the city for construction areas. Parks staff has identified the most significant trees within the construction zones and is working with the pipeline to preserve "landmark" trees. The City has in-house arborists who will help identify those significant trees. The City is working diligently with the pipeline company to ensure the best outcome possible.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Anderson Park Water Treatment Facility - Re-scheduled for a future meeting.
- B. Anderson Park Master Plan Amendment
Cox introduced Christine Whittaker, HDR Engineering. Whittaker is the landscape architect for this water source recovery project. City staff including, Utility, Parks and Recreation and Public Works Construction Management, as well as the consultant, have met in response to the concern for more evaluation of the proposed facilities as it relates to Anderson Park.

Impacts to the park have not been fully evaluated. There is an original Master Plan for Anderson Park. The "stand alone" treatment facility is considered a new use within the park. When new uses within the park are involved, there is the possibility of a Master Plan Amendment. Staff is asking the Board, until further clarification, to take a "straw vote" for an Amendment to the current Master Plan, focused on the new use. The new Amendment would be similar to the scope and content to the Opportunity Study for Idylwood Park or GrassLawn Renovation Study, prepared recently. The timeframe, process, public input, some "brainstorming", Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis would be provided. That would give the Board clearer idea how this facility might best fit into the park and what mitigations might take place. The Amendment would identify the use, impacts (e.g. noise, visual, tree loss), and mitigation measures in greater specificity. Alternative locations within the park might be discussed. How the project works in with the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) of the park, and the Board's policy of no net loss of values within the park would be discussed.

Staff is looking for support or other indication, from the Board, to move forward on the amendment for the park.

Stewart inquired if the timeline of the amendment request would be affected if something were perceived to change, such as location of the facility, scaling of the facility; would it be done in time to be effective. Cox responded that analysis and process is intended to be timely and beneficial for advancing decisions regarding the water treatment facility by providing a process for the public to comment, for the impacts to be evaluated and for appropriate mitigations to be identified.

Snodgrass wanted to ask Public Works staff as to the feasibility of off-site treatment. She also noted that she was unsure of the timeline. Cox responded it is his understanding that the replacement of several city wells and treatment facilities would occur in a sequential manner.

The City has five wells, and only one well would be off-line at one time. He also felt that if started now there would be enough time to go forward with Board evaluation, process, and recommendation for action. SEPA documentation and review have to be completed. Technical Committee review and Design Review Board review is also required. Cox stated that the Public Works public input process combined, with the Board's process could provide a thorough and timely discussion of the project from a land use and public input perspective, adding that the amendment process might take four months.

Kelsey stated his concern that when first presented to the Board, the project was presented on a much smaller scale. He felt it was getting out of scale and there is no assurance that the structure will not get larger, or create a large scale impact on the park. He added that the Board has not seen adequate drawings of how the infrastructure is configured at the site. Kelsey noted that he is unsure that there might be a less obtrusive place to place the structure and that he needed to be more fully advised.

Cox stated that a plan amendment could provide information regarding project siting within the park and create the opportunity for discussion of alternatives sites within the park. The Board's findings and recommendations would be forwarded onto Council for their consideration. Council has funded this project. Council took action at its' last meeting to approve the consultant's contract for further design on the project.

Information related to the start of an Anderson Park Master Plan Amendment could go to the Parks and Human Services Committee in July, if Park Board wishes to move forward.

Stewart sensed that the treatment facility at Anderson Park was unique to treating only the wells associated with the Park site. Are these wells intertwined in such a way that the treatment could be located at another location and why was Anderson Park selected? Is purification for all wells being done at Anderson Park? Does it have to be on top of the well or can it be routed within the system? Would any off-site location be feasible and require land acquisition? Stewart added that it is very important to carefully word the language of a plan amendment, to the public, as to what their input will/should be about. If not approached the correct way it may be perceived that they (the public) could affect the location of the treatment facility and could misrepresent what could be done in the event the treatment facility cannot be located somewhere else. She felt that this will have a definite value impact on the park in many ways.

Snodgrass clarified purification to the two wells is done on site now.

Margeson stated that the Board was a representation of the citizens that use the park and are familiar with the scale of the buildings currently at the park. They would be dwarfed, and would change the park to the negative, and that irrespective of whatever corner the facility is located at, would obliterate the view, not just the trees, but the character of the park.

Ladd agreed, at this point, the Board should focus on whether this is the best way to do this, and that maybe 10 percent less efficient, but 50% less obnoxious is more favorable. Ladd would like to have a discussion of the "science" of this and have a discussion about the type of treatment method being used.

Snodgrass stated that she has faith that staff for Public Works has been diligent in researching the proper treatment process, but it is important that questions be answered before the Board begins the process and makes a commitment to this site. It would also be confusing to the public if their concerns about, size, noise and other impact issues occurring there without further information about site location decision. She added that she felt it was the judicial duty, as the Park Board, to protect the park site as is, until the answers are provided to the questions asked. She suggested that the Board take the thought process of doing an amendment under consideration until such time that Public Works staff is able to come before the Board and provide information. Her understanding is that the Board is not in opposition of the process, with the understanding that nothing will occur on the site until the completion of the Board's process and submission to Council and the approval of the amendment by Council before any actions are taken.

Margeson added that the citizens of the community value the open space and do not want buildings on every park site. He asked what the impact of the noise and other environmental issues would be to the park. He suggested that the Board walk the site.

Kelsey noted that the original Master Plan adopted on in May 1981, and he believed it was intended to stay small and was, at the time, the only urban park in Redmond.

Stewart noted that the park was the only interactive park, in 1981 that had historical buildings on it.

Cox summarized, before any process begins, there needs to be a clear definition of what that process includes and the need to receive significant information so the Park Board can more clearly understand information in what has brought the project to this point to make a informed decision. Cox asked if the Park Board might like to see a facility similar to that proposed to gain a better understanding of the visual, size, and noise characteristics of the proposed facility.

Snodgrass responded that if a meeting is scheduled with Parks staff and engineering, Board members would be very interested to attend. She also noted that the location of a similar facility, and the opportunity to visit one, would be most welcome before the August meeting.

Stewart noted that the sound of the water might also be magnified when contained in the tower. Snodgrass noted that the sound of the fans might also be a distraction.

Cox will keep the Board informed regarding staff and consultant discussions, and would inform the Board on process discussions, so they can work from an informed position.

Christine Whittaker, Landscape Architect, added that the landscaping would be environmentally and aesthetically planned. Her role is to plan the landscaping around the facility to fit facility and park characteristics. She welcomed the Board's comments as she makes her presentation at future meetings.

C. Hartman Park Field Improvements

Cox reported that from previous discussion and recent activity by City Council to re-appropriate some of the department's CIP (Capital Improvement Project) monies, there is an opportunity and need to address some of the ballpark surfaces at Hartman Park. Fields 5 & 6 is the first choice in this opportunity. The plan is to resurface Fields 5 & 6 that would provide for the current configuration of two LL baseball diamonds and allow for multi-use. The field would also be lit; the type of lighting that might be used requires less energy and will provide better shielding. The field is 20 vertical feet lower than most of the neighborhood (104th Street and 172nd Avenue), it is surrounded by significant mature trees (70 to 80 ft in height), and the light standards would be below the tree line. It is believed that the new surface would increase the usability of the park, along with the availability of multi-use activities.

Cox asked the Board to help determine the level of public involvement necessary to proceed. The Hartman Park Master Plan identifies

lighting on these fields and has been discussed and approved. Field resurfacing would renovate existing turf fields. The lighting technology is new. Location and setting of the field indicates new technology lighting can be installed with minimal impacts. There are no sensitive adjacent land uses e.g. parks north and east, vacant to the south and the property to the west is the church site. Cox asked for Park Board comments.

Stewart inquired that when the park is completely "master planned" out and the neighborhood uses are developed out, will there be light radiating out into the neighborhoods? Cox responded that the field location is buffered to the south, southeast and southwest by heavily wooded area. Ballfields are located to the north and church and utility uses to the west. Stewart indicated that as long no changes or removal of trees to the south occurred, she felt that the company would be shielded. She is looking forward to artificial fields and would hope that this project will take into consideration the opportunity to upgrade the bleacher system, particularly at Field 5, no side rails or back, if someone were to fall, they would fall into the embankment.

Kelsey noted that parking planned on the west side of the complex, which is not currently there; would be an added expense, especially since the High School parking lot is available. Cox replied that the High School parking lot is currently used and parking planned for 172nd Avenue may no longer be feasible. While Park Board is working on the SWOT analysis for the Education Hill Neighborhood they may determine the need for an update of Hartman Park Master Plan. Snodgrass suggested that the SWOT would be a good opportunity to partner with the Education Hill Neighborhood Committee on at least one meeting to get feedback on master planning.

Margeson made comment to take into consideration not raising fees for the Little League or other organizations associated with proposed improvements to Fields 5 & 6. He added that this rise in cost had happened at GrassLawn and Perrigo Parks and it made it unaffordable for Little League or other organizations to play on these fields.

Cox asked the Board's approval on moving forward with plans to upgrade Fields 5 & 6 with artificial turf and lighting. Is additional process desirable?

Snodgrass responded that this was not different than renovations at GrassLawn; noting that improvements to an existing amenity was done and was kept in the same framework of what the amenity was designed for. The Board agreed that no public input was necessary.

Motion by Kelsey, to advise Parks staff, to move forward with the existing plan to upgrade the field surfaces and add lighting on Fields 5 & 6 at Hartman Park, as proposed in the existing Master Plan.

Second by Margeson.

Approved 5-0.

D. Youth Advocate

Staff reports that two youth advocate applications have been received, which the Board has received and reviewed.

Snodgrass will contact and set up interviews. She will send out an e-mail to Board members asking for interview volunteers.

The 2005-2006 Youth advocate term (1 year) will begin in September, 2005.

VI. New Business

A. Joint City Council/Park Board Meeting Debrief

Snodgrass asked staff to inform the Board when the Park Funding Mechanism would be on the Council agenda to accept the recommendation. Cox responded that the agenda item may be presented sometime in August or September.

Cox stated that he felt staff was instructed to bring this item forward to Council their decision.

Margeson added that the Council should - decide bond dollar amount, when the best time to present the bond to the public, go forward (timing), and appointment of a Blue Ribbon Committee. Margeson stated he is supporting the bond and the Council's decision as to how to proceed.

Stewart felt that there may be some disapproval to present the bond in 2006 and the timing issue might be an item of further discussion.

Snodgrass noted that Councilmember McCormick expressed disappointment in the Board for not being able to provide a more specific discussion of what the Board sees as needs in the system and what the vision is for the system.

Margeson added that the Council wanted a laundry list of items of park needs, plus the dollar amount. He also stated that money needed to be set aside with no specific ties to any project, not earmarked. The money would be available for any land acquisition opportunity, arises the money would be available. The wording also should be such, that

it covers all areas - preservation of open space, ability to purchase available properties for future development, park-like property like Perrigo Park, etc.

Ladd stated that an independent audit would be something that might be of value in easing the public's mind as to how the money would be spent.

Snodgrass requested that provide the Council the Parks CIP, as well as color copies of the slide presentation produced by staff, at the same time as the formal packet goes to Council on the formal recommendation on the Park funding mechanism. Cox will also include the PIP (Parks Improvement Plan).

B. Sammamish Valley Neighborhood SWOT

Cox handed out a copy of the beginning of the Sammamish Valley Neighborhood SWOT, as well as aerials of the area. SV Neighborhood is bounded on the north by 124th, south by 90th Street, west by Willows Road and east by Redmond-Woodinville Road. This neighborhood contains one City park property - Sammamish Valley Community Park located at 116th and Willows Road. The City has a non-exclusive agreement with Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association. Parks staff is currently working on an extension of that agreement. Other recreational uses occurring within that neighborhood are - 60 Acres North (outside city limits), 60 Acres South (inside city limits), both King County facilities, Puget Sound Energy Trail - backbone trail for the city's trail system. Staff will be bringing forward at the next meeting, and has asked the Board to start looking and thinking about this neighborhood in terms of SWOT. Staff will come forward at the next meeting with their evaluation of what they believe to be SWOT elements. Recreational uses are noted in the City's Comprehensive Plan, Page 272, Section 5.

Snodgrass inquired who could a citizen go to if changes were made in the usage of 60 Acres Park South? Snodgrass had heard through the LWYSA representative that the King County might swap 60 Acres South with the Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association site. The farm site would then be utilized by the Technical College Horticulture Department.

Margeson added that the discussion of swapping the usage of the Mueller Farm and 60 Acres had occurred long before a decision was made some time ago and may no longer be an item of discussion. Margeson suggested, if interest still remained, staff should inquire through the LWYSA organization and also find out who the best contact person would be through King County.

Stewart had attended some meetings regarding the "radio" airplane users group; one important issue was that of air currents. Exchanging sites may not be of benefit to this group.

Kelsey inquired if the LWYSA was working with Redmond Ridge to develop fields. Margeson responded that they are working with Redmond Ridge on developing more fields; currently there is only one field in the development.

Cox requested that the Board review the SWOT analysis, noting that staff will come back to the Board with a SWOT chart from staff's perspective, solicit feedback from the Board, after which staff will combine all gathered information into one report.

The next neighborhood SWOT analysis will probably be done on the North Redmond or Education Hill Neighborhoods.

VII. Reports – Projects

- A. CIP Update - Idylwood Park Playground, Bear Creek Park Trail Project, GrassLawn Park Phase III Renovation

Cox noted that these projects are proceeding in planning and construction phases.

- B. BNSF Purchase (King County)

Cox reported that King County is taking the lead on the purchase of the BNSF rail line from Renton to Snohomish, and the spur that is in Redmond.

- D. Perrigo Park - Artwork Signage

Cox handed out a photo of a sign that would explain the artwork at Perrigo Park. The sign will be placed on the restroom building at Perrigo Park. Interpretative signage will speak to the artwork on the fence. The sign will be the approximate size and style of existing signs at the park.

Arts Coordinator, Melna Skillingstead and the Redmond Arts Commission are asking the Board to review the sign and make comments. Cox asked the Board to comment and e-mail any suggestions to staff within the next two weeks.

Motion by: Stewart to accept and endorse the artwork signage to Melna Skillingstead and the Redmond Arts Commission.

Second by: Margeson

Unanimous: 5-0

E. Redmond Outdoor Sculpture Program

The Board received a photo of "Scooter"; this powder coat steel sculpture is being considered for a city park location. The Arts Commission has asked the Board to discuss and make a recommendation as to what park location would be best for this art piece. The piece needs to be placed in a location where it would be most enjoyed and visibly seen by the public. Two locations have been suggested: Cascade View Neighborhood Park and Meadow Park. Each location was discussed as ideal, both having wide open spaces meeting criteria discussed by the Board.

After Board discussion of the merits of each park, they agreed that Meadow Park would be the best suggested location, as the open space is visible from the east, west and northwest.

Stewart, Kelsey, and Snodgrass agreed that Meadow Park would be the best location; Ladd and Margeson agreed that either park would be agreeable.

Motion by Stewart to recommend to staff and the Redmond Arts Commission the suggested outdoor sculpture piece be placed at Meadow Neighborhood Park.

Second by: Ladd

Unanimous: 5-0

VIII. Coming Attractions

A. Land Acquisition Strategy

Cox reported that Nintendo has applied for a development agreement on their property located on 51st Street and 148th Avenue. The developer agreement locks in the zoning code currently in use - it would be advantageous to the developer in that it allows planning with certainty of the current codes. There is section in the code for approval of development agreements that requires public benefit. In the previous 1997 PRO Plan, current PRO Plan and PIP, it shows acquisition, Acquisition 15 on the PIP, 7 years and beyond, two Special Use parks are shown - 3 acres, west of SR520, north of 40th Street. Parks and Planning will work together to approach Nintendo to designate a resource park within their planning area (27 acre site). Early in the process staff will come back to the Board to report the outcome of their findings and ask the Board to consider what they might like.

B. Redmond 74 Open Space

Cox reported that the site is located on the east side of the Sammamish River and adjacent to Redmond-Woodinville Road, on the slope. The vision would be for open space, interpretive area and environmental restoration in relation to the river. Public Works will make a presentation next month to further explain and seek the Board's comments regarding the proposal.

C. Other

Kelsey will be chairing the August 4 meeting.

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Kelsey

Second by: Ladd

Approved: 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

By: _____ Date _____
Lori Snodgrass, Chair

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Sharon Sato

Next Regular Meeting

August 4, 2005

7:00 p.m.

Location: Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center